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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

96-HOUR REPORT

1 JUNE 2021

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Lakewood – Authorities Attribute 'Swatting' for Igniting Panic After Manifesto Goes Viral

(U) A Los Angeles suburb was shaken early Sunday after a person claiming to be a resident left a lengthy diatribe on Reddit threatening a mass shooting. However, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department investigators now believe that the person mentioned in the post was a victim of "swatting," a prank or false emergency report which causes a large police response. They say there is no credible threat to the public. Lakewood officials wrote on social media that the real person named in the post has "cooperated fully" with sheriff's department investigators. They said the Sheriff's Department would be investigating further to determine who was behind the fake post.

SOURCE: 31 May 2021, Fox News

(U) San Jose – Rail Yard Gunman Stockpiled Weapons, Thousands of Rounds of Ammo

(U) The gunman who killed nine of his coworkers at the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority rail yard had stockpiled weapons and 25,000 rounds of ammunition at his house before setting it on fire to coincide with the bloodshed at the workplace that he seethed about for years, authorities said Friday. Investigators found 12 guns, multiple cans of gasoline and suspected Molotov cocktails at the home of Samuel James Cassidy, 57, in San Jose. He also rigged an unusual time-delay method to ensure the house caught fire after he left to commit the mass shooting, putting "ammunition in a cooking pot on a stove" in his home. The unknown liquid in the pot reached a boiling point, igniting an accelerant and potentially the gunpowder in the bullets nearby.

SOURCE: 29 May 2021, Voice of America

(U) Yucca Valley – Deputy Dies Following Shootout with Suspect

(U) San Bernardino County Sheriff John McMahon confirmed early Tuesday morning that a deputy shot during a Yucca Valley pursuit was pronounced dead at a hospital. The deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop on the motorcyclist, but they failed to yield, and pursuit ensued. The pursuit ended when the driver abandoned the motorcycle and ran into an open desert area nearby. McMahon said the deputies spotted the abandoned motorcycle and when they searched the area, the suspect started shooting at the responding deputies, striking one. The deputy was airlifted to the hospital and was initially reported as being in serious condition, McMahon announced. McMahon said deputies were able to locate the suspect, who once again started shooting at them. Deputies returned fire and killed the suspect. The investigation remains ongoing, additional details are expected to be released later.

SOURCE: 31 May 2021, KESQ News

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

(U) District of Columbia – More US Citizens Apprehended Smuggling Drugs Over Border

(U) Washington DC – An increasing number of American citizens have been apprehended as they have tried to smuggle illegal drugs into the US since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, an uptick that has come amid travel restrictions at the border with Mexico. For more than a year, the closure of the southern border to nonessential traffic has sharply limited the number of foreign citizens entering the US by land. The restrictions have been extended until at least 21 June, but Mexican authorities have

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allowed most US citizens to walk or drive south across the border with relative ease. US citizens were apprehended nearly seven times more often than Mexican citizens between October 2020 and 31 March 2021 for trying to smuggle drugs in vehicles, US Customs and Border Protection data shows. In the 2018 and 2019 fiscal years, Americans were caught roughly twice as often as Mexicans. SOURCE: 31 May 2021, KTLA News

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Florida – 23 People Shot, 2 Killed Outside Banquet Hall

(U) Hialeah – Miami-Dade police are investigating a deadly mass shooting that left two people dead and 21 others injured in what detectives described as a targeted act of violence. "This is a despicable act of gun violence," said Miami-Dade Police Director Freddy Ramirez. According to police, the shooting took place after a birthday party for a local rapper known as ABMG Spitta, whose real name is Courtney Paul Wilson. Police confirmed that shots were fired back at the three shooters and about 100 shell casings were found at the scene. A witness said the shooters came with ski masks and hoodies, and just started shooting up the crowd.

SOURCE: 31 May 2021, Local 10 News

(U) Florida – Three Charged in Interstate Gun Trafficking Operation

(U) Tallahassee – Three Florida residents were recently charged with trafficking firearms that were stolen in Florida and sending them to Connecticut. As alleged in court documents and statements made in court, suspects rented a car, which was used to drive to Florida to obtain stolen firearms and bring the firearms back to Connecticut. On 8 March, law enforcement recovered a .40 caliber handgun and a high-capacity magazine that was discarded during a foot chase in New Britain. A subsequent search of a New Britain apartment revealed three additional loaded firearms, two extended magazines, more than 100 rounds of ammunition, and approximately 60-grams of cocaine.

SOURCE: 28 May 2021, US Department of Justice

(U) Ohio – Seven People Arrested, Charged in International Fentanyl Trafficking Operation

(U) Cincinnati – Seven Cincinnatians are charged in an international fentanyl trafficking conspiracy that involved "prolific" distributors and stretched from cartels in Mexico to the streets of the Queen City. An Arizona man allegedly sourced illicit drugs from across the border and helped coordinate the transport of those drugs through California and Arizona to distributors in the Cincinnati area, according to the indictment. Investigators stopped cars driven by two people in Cincinnati on Memorial Day 2020 and allegedly found more than 4-kilograms of fentanyl hidden in the front bumper and wheel wells of one of the cars. Investigators in October and November 2020 found 13 additional kilograms of fentanyl in connection with the same distribution pipeline. They also seized 17 guns and more than \$1 million in alleged drug proceeds.

SOURCE: 28 May 2021, Fox 19

(U) Texas – Man Arrested After Officials Intercept Plans for Mass Shooting at Walmart

(U) Kerrville – The FBI, Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS), and Kerr County Sheriff's Office (KCSO) have arrested a Kerrville man they say planned to carry out a shooting at a Walmart. Coleman Thomas Blevins, 28, popped up on the KCSO radar last week, so the office reached out to Blevins. According to the KCSO, it confirmed Blevins was planning a mass shooting after speaking with him. In a message KCSO intercepted, Blevins allegedly threatened to shoot up a Walmart, which location was not released. Blevins was arrested Friday on a Terroristic Threat warrant, then officials got to work on a search warrant at his home.

SOURCE: 30 May 2021, Fox San Antonio

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(U) Texas – State Troopers, National Guard Sent to Border After Increase in Fentanyl Seizures

(U) Austin – Governor Greg Abbott called the smuggling of fentanyl across the Texas-Mexico border a "crisis" and said Thursday that he has deployed 1,000 Texas DPS troopers and National Guard members to combat the problem. In the first four months of 2021, DPS saw a significant increase in fentanyl seizures compared with 2020. After having no fentanyl seizures in 2017, 2018, and 2019. DPS seized 52-grams in 2020, and so far this year, troopers have already seized 137-grams, Governor Abbott said. SOURCE: 29 May 2021, Texas Tribune

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) France - Man Killed in Shootout After Knife Attack on Police

(U) Nantes – A "known radical" suspected of carrying out a knife attack in France died from injuries sustained in a shootout with police Friday, hours after wounding a female officer in another act of violence against police. The man, who was on a terrorist watch-list according to the interior ministry, had been on the run after the attack in La Chapelle-sur-Erdre near the western city of Nantes. A total of 250 officers were trying to find him, and two gendarmes were wounded in the exchange of fire that resulted in his arrest, authorities said. No motive for the stabbing has emerged, but the attacker was "a known radical and suffering from a very serious psychiatric illness," one source involved in the investigation said. After stabbing the officer at a police station, inflicting life-threatening injuries, the suspect stole her service weapon and fled on foot. Arrested in 2013 for aggravated theft, on his release he was ordered to follow treatment for schizophrenia.

SOURCE: 28 May 2021, Associated Press

(U) Germany – Police Shoot Knife-Wielding Man Who Threatened Drivers

(U) Hamburg – German police were investigating an apparent attack after killing a knife-wielding man who damaged cars and threatened motorists in the country's second largest city, Hamburg, on Friday. Several witnesses reported the attacker yelling "Allahu Akbar!" ("God is greatest!" in Arabic), according to the police. Officers deployed to the scene, backed by a special unit that "happened to be nearby," police said in a statement. The man then started approaching the police with a knife in his hand, said police spokeswoman Sandra Levgrün. The officers used pepper spray and fired a taser in an effort to subdue him, but the attacker did not appear to be affected. Eventually, police used their firearms. The attacker died a short time later.

SOURCE: 29 May 2021, Deutsche Valle

(U) Israel – Man Stabs Security Guard at Border Crossing

(U) Sdei Avraham – A security guard was lightly wounded after being stabbed Sunday evening in a suspected terrorist attack near an Israeli town bordering Gaza, Israeli authorities said. According to first reports of the investigation, the suspect infiltrated Israel from the south, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said on Monday. The individual was spotted by security agents as he walked along the road near the town of Sdei Avraham of the Eshkol Regional Council in southern Israel. The guards stopped him, and the suspect brandished a knife and stabbed one of the security guards before the second opened fire injuring the suspect. According to the army he was "neutralized," and the investigation is ongoing. SOURCE: 30 May 2021, I24 News

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- (U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.